

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for viewing multimedia content, the system comprising:

a communication network;

a content source coupled to the communication network;

a broadcast center coupled to the communication network; and

a plurality of client systems coupled to the broadcast center, wherein the plurality of client systems is organized according to an object-oriented model in which logical software objects are instantiated in an object hierarchy that includes:

a household object that contains attributes and data related to a household in which the client systems are located; and

a plurality of user objects that contain attributes and data related to respective users of the client systems,

wherein the user objects are contained in the household object and, when instantiated, the user objects define interaction of the respective users with the plurality of client systems,

wherein a client system of the plurality of client systems is configured to be selectively accessed by a user to change a configuration of a user object of the plurality of user objects, the system being configured to provide the change to all of the client systems of the plurality of client systems without further activity from the user and without the user selecting the plurality of client systems to provide the change; and

a revision history that includes information related to configuration changes of the plurality of user objects, wherein the revision history is configured to store update identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to configuration information related to the plurality of user objects;

wherein the system is configured and arranged to provide configuration changes to the client systems by receiving an update identifier from a client system of the plurality of client systems; determining an update vector for that client system as a function of the received update identifier and any update identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update

than the received update identifier; and generating the update vector for that client system as a function of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the received update identifier.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the system is configurable to selectively add a new client system to the plurality of client systems, the system being configured to provide the plurality of user objects to the new client system without activity from a user.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein a user object of the plurality of user objects can be concurrently active in more than one client system of the plurality of client systems.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of user objects includes an anonymous user object, wherein the anonymous user object is configured to be accessible to all users.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a server operatively coupled to the plurality of client systems, wherein the server is configured to include information related to each user object of the plurality of user objects.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[9]] 1, wherein the revision history includes a ticket number associated with each configuration change that is included in the revision history.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for viewing multimedia content, the system comprising:

distribution means for distributing multimedia content from a source;

a plurality of access means, communicatively coupled to the distribution means, for providing access to the multimedia content;

a plurality of access means objects that contain attributes and data related to respective access means;

at least one household object representing a household to which the plurality of access means pertains, wherein the household object is a logical software object that includes attributes and data concerning the household; ~~and~~

a plurality of user objects representing users of the plurality of access means, wherein the user objects are logical software objects that include attributes and data concerning the users and are configured to store at least one user name and password to allow the corresponding user to access services from at least one partner of a television service provider, and wherein the user objects are contained in the household object when the household object and the user objects are instantiated; and

a revision history that includes information related to configuration changes of the plurality of user objects, wherein the revision history is configured to store update identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to configuration information related to the plurality of user objects;

wherein the system is configured and arranged to provide configuration changes to the access means by receiving an update identifier from an access means of the plurality of access means; determining an update vector for that access means as a function of the received update identifier and any update identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update than the received update identifier; and generating the update vector for that access means as a function of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the received update identifier.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein an access means of the plurality of access means is configured to be selectively accessed by a user to change a configuration of a user object of the plurality of user objects, the system being configured to provide the change to all of the access means of the plurality of access means without further activity from the user and without the user selecting the plurality of access means to provide the change.

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the system is configurable to selectively add a new access means to the plurality of access means, the system being configured to provide the plurality of user objects to the new access means without activity from a user.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein a user object of the plurality of user objects can be concurrently active in more than one access means of the plurality of access means.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the plurality of user objects includes an anonymous user object, wherein the anonymous user object is configured to be accessible to all users.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 11, further comprising a server operatively coupled to the plurality of access means, wherein the server is configured to include information related to each user object of the plurality of user objects.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~19~~ 11, wherein the revision history includes a ticket number associated with each configuration change that is included in the revision history.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for viewing content delivered to a client system, the method comprising:

associating a plurality of client systems with a household and associating one of a plurality of client system objects to each of the client systems, wherein the client system object contains attributes and data related to its respective client system;

instantiating at least one household object that represents the household, wherein the household object is a logical software object that includes attributes and data related to the household; and

instantiating a plurality of user objects that represent users of the plurality of client systems, wherein the user objects are logical software objects that include attributes and data related to the users including an individual e-mail address for each user object, and wherein the user objects are contained in the household object when the household object and the user objects are instantiated; and

delivering content from a content source via a communication network to at least one of the plurality of clients systems in accordance with at least one of the user objects;

receiving a change of configuration of a user object from a user via a client system of the plurality of client systems;

providing the change to all of the client systems of the plurality of client systems without requiring further input from the user and without the user selecting the plurality of client systems to provide the change; and

storing a revision history that includes information related to configuration changes of the plurality of user objects, wherein the revision history is configured to store update identifiers and bit vectors associated with updates to configuration information related to the plurality of user objects;

wherein providing the change to all of the client systems comprises receiving an update identifier from a client system of the plurality of client systems and determining an update vector for the client system as a function of the received update identifier and any update identifiers in the revision history that are more recently associated with an update than the received update identifier; and

wherein determining the update vector comprises generating the update vector as a function of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the update received identifier.

22-23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
receiving information that a new client system has been added to the plurality of client systems of the household; and
providing the plurality of user objects to the new client system without requiring input from the user.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein each user object is configured to include an individual pay-per-view user identification number.

26-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~28~~ 21, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

30. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.

31. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the function of the bit vectors comprises the logical-OR of the bit vectors associated with the update identifiers that are more recent than the received identifier.